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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Wednesday - 12 June 1968

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1. [] - JMM) [] and I met with Russ Blandford, House Armed Services Committee staff, regarding a possible letter which Chairman Rivers might send to Chairman Henderson, of the Manpower and Civil Service Subcommittee, regarding upcoming hearings on S. 1035, Constitutional Rights of Federal Employees. Blandford suggested a shortened version of our proposed draft letter and asked us to take up the problem with Philip Kelleher, of the Committee staff. Mr. Kelleher will prepare a final, shortened version on the basis of our suggestions and Blandford will see if Chairman Rivers wants to send it.

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Blandford asked some questions about the characteristics and performance of the Foxbat Soviet aircraft and also mentioned his continuing interest in the development of Soviet STOL aircraft. We offered to brief him on this matter at his convenience and [] later made arrangements for the briefing on Friday, 14 June. We urged Blandford to push for an early meeting of the full Committee so that these and other matters could be fully reviewed. He said he hoped that now that Rivers' South Carolina primary was out of the way, the Chairman might be persuaded to convene a Subcommittee meeting.

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We briefed Blandford on several current intelligence items including (a) use of Egyptian ports by Soviet vessels in the Mediterranean, (b) new activity in the Soviet space program, (c) new activity in the Soviet nuclear program, (d) possible new Soviet intermediate or medium range missiles.

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2. [] Picked up from Jim Kendall, Staff Director of the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, their draft report on balance of strategic power. Mr. Kendall asked if we would review the draft for accuracy, at the same time making sure that they have not included in it any information in special security categories. He again asked that this be handled very closely and without comment elsewhere. This is being forwarded to the DD/I for initial review and will subsequently be reviewed by the DD/S&T.

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4. [] Met with Mr. James Gehrig, Staff Director, Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, and briefed him on the latest information concerning the new Soviet space launch complex. Gehrig was glad to have this information and again expressed concern that this information was not available to all members of the Committee. He asked if Senators Russell and Symington had received this information and focused on it. I told him I was quite certain that it was covered as part of our overall briefings of the CIA Subcommittees. I added that I could not be certain to the extent of which the Senators actually focused on it, however. Gehrig expressed his concern that members of their Committee, like Senators Russell and Symington had voted in favor of cuts in the NASA budget, knowing that the Soviets continue to place heavy emphasis on their space program. Gehrig said he would like to have a briefing for the Chairman and Mrs. Smith, but was not certain when this could be accomplished. In the interim, he might wish to visit the Agency to get a briefing himself. I told him we would be happy to do this whenever he wished.

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5. ([] GLC) Mr. Maury and [] made a courtesy 25X1 call on Senator Howard Baker. The Senator was most complimentary of the Agency and was particularly laudatory in his remarks about Mr. Warner. The Senator said that the briefings he received from the Agency were always of the highest caliber and better than any others he received. We thanked the Senator and told him we would be happy to be of assistance at any time in the future.

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25X1 6. ([] - GLC) At his request, I met briefly with Mr. David Martin, Staff Assistant to Senator Thomas Dodd. Martin mentioned that the Senator was having an old Internal Security Subcommittee report on the Hungarian situation reprinted with the comments applicable to the current situation in Czechoslovakia. Martin also asked if he could be put on the mailing list for the [] for a short period of time. I told Martin I was sure this could be arranged, but pointed out some of the problems involved in making this particular book available. Martin said he understood and would handle the material appropriately.

Had a friendly chat with Senator Dodd who mentioned that just prior to seeing him he had been advised by the FBI of the arrest of an armed man in Hartford who was threatening to shoot the Senator. He said he had asked the Bureau and local police officials to suppress any publicity in connection with this, feeling that it would only make the current situation worse. The Senator was rather philosophical about his own safety, but spoke in very strong terms about the state of affairs in the U. S. generally. He said he introduced in the Senate today, the President's gun bill at the President's request.

25X1 7. ([] - JGO) Met with Mr. B. Benton Bray, Associate Staff Director, House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Mr. Bray indicated that the Chairman's meeting with Mr. Maury and Mr. Warner had been most satisfactory and a productive one and inquired if we were ready to appear on Tuesday, the 18th. I advised that we will be ready on that date. I expect to talk further with Mr. Bray during tomorrow after the appearance of Mr. Macy and the Civil Service Commissioners.

25X1 8. ([] - JGO) I attempted to meet with Chairman Rivers, Mr. Blandford or Mr. Kelleher late in the afternoon, but each of their offices were closed.

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